



Memorandum

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Mayor Sam Liccardo
Vice Mayor Rose Herrera
Councilmember Chappie Jones

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: January 23, 2015

Approved Sam Liccardo Rose Herrera ^{MG} Date 1/23/15

SUBJECT : SUPPORT FOR IMMIGRANT SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION

Direct the City Manager to:

- 1) Establish an Office of Immigrant Affairs by designating a person in the City Manager's Office or other senior city official to coordinate efforts with the County and non-profit providers.
- 2) Coordinate with Santa Clara County officials and immigrant service providers to identify gaps in resources, and avoid duplication of services, for our immigrant community who seek to take advantage of President Obama's Executive Action.
- 3) Return to Council during this year's budget process to discuss funding needs for the full roll out of the Office of Immigrant Affairs to fulfill any service gaps identified as a result of the work in Item 2 above.
- 4) Report back to the city council at a later date with a plan for the Office of Immigrant Affairs to focus on longer term goals such as integration of the immigrant community, supporting immigrant entrepreneurship and other goals identified by the City Council.
- 5) Report back to the Council on a potential Welcome Ordinance.

DISCUSSION

We are eager to support our residents as they begin to seek relief under President Obama's Executive Action. Establishing an Office of Immigrant Affairs is a step in the right direction in dealing with urgent issues such as preventing notary fraud, educating the public on the

application process and partnering with the County of Santa Clara and service providers to tackle this in a collaborative and efficient manner.

While the immediate need for the office is to coordinate efforts, we are also presented with an opportunity to further explore a longer-term plan. For example, this office can assist and coordinate the current work we do to support small businesses, but with a focus on immigrant entrepreneurship. As suggested by Councilmembers Kalra, Peralez, Carrasco and Nguyen, the office can serve as a resource for new immigrant businesses by educating them on how to navigate various city departments for permits and other services. The Office of Immigrant Affairs can also assist everyday residents with questions about city services or those who seek referrals to partner agencies for a variety of reasons, not solely those related to immigration. Staff should seek the input of the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee as well as the Neighborhoods, Small Business Development and Human Services Commissions in developing the long-term plan for the Office of Immigrant Affairs.